

Pappas, would you concur?

SENATOR PAPPAS: Yes, I agree with the Chair at all times.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, sir. In the interest of furtherance of international relations, I draw your attention to special guests under the north balcony. They are guests of Mr. Richard Thompson of the...Chairman of the Spantel Corporation, and Dr. Robert Justis, W.W. Marshall, Professor of Franchising at the College of Business Administration, University of Nebraska, our special guests, Mr. Jin-Hwan Kim, Chairman of Samai (phonetic) Trading Company Limited of Seoul, Korea, and his son, Que Chan Kim, also of Seoul, Korea. Please give them a hand. Thank you, gentlemen. We are delighted to have you visit us today. The next bill, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next bill is LB 231 offered by Senator Langford. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 13 of this year, referred to the Government Committee for public hearing, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments pending by the Government Committee, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Mr. Chairman, Senator Rupp, on the amendments.

SENATOR RUPP: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, Senator Langford's LB 231 would make a very modest increase in the pay that judges and clerks of elections receive and the board of canvassers in counties that have an appointed election commissioner, just in counties that have an appointed election commissioner. It would bring the act in line with minimum wage standards. The committee amendments do two things. It adds district inspectors to the bill which just read, as I say, judges, clerks and the board of canvassers. It would add district inspectors to receive this wage increase from 3.90 per hour to 3.95 per hour. The second thing the committee amendments would do is increase the maximum time that the election board could be paid. Right now it's 14 hours. It would increase the maximum amount of time they could be paid to 15 hours. There is a companion bill coming along at a later date by Senator Withem that would, if it, in fact, passes, would allow the polls in eastern Nebraska to be open one hour earlier so this 14 to 15 maximum hours that they could be paid would be needed. If Senator Withem's bill, later on, does not pass, this is permissive. It is not mandatory that they be paid the extra hours. So this is permissive. It would merely put a cap of 15 hours rather than